



..... RARITIES FOR INVESTORS & COLLECTORS .....

# PRESERVE THE PAST. INVEST IN THE FUTURE.

..... SPRING 2016 .....

## **WELCOME TO OUR SPRING CATALOGUE**

Owning a great Australian coin rarity is an education in the nation's history. Top coins such as the 1813 Holey Dollar, the 1852 Cracked Die and the 1930 Penny reflect great moments in time and have a wonderful story to tell. Their appeal goes far beyond their scarcity. With this Catalogue we invite you, and your family, to share the experience.

## **ABOUT COINWORKS**

Coinworks has long been regarded as the leader in its field and enjoys an enviable worldwide reputation.

Recent Company achievements:

- Appointment in 2016 of Coinworks Managing Director, Belinda Downie, as President of the Australasian Numismatic Dealers Association.
- Sponsoring a major exhibition of Australia's currency treasures in August 2016.
- Collaborating with the Macquarie Group in 2013 in an exhibition that celebrated the 1813 Holey Dollar and Dump.
- Appointed sole agent in 2014 to sell the very first banknote of the Commonwealth of Australia.
- Appointed sole agent in 2015 to sell the banknotes from the personal collection of Prime Minister Andrew Fisher.

## **FIRST COIN. FIRST BANKNOTE. ON SHOW IN MELBOURNE**

Coinworks will host a multi-million dollar Exhibition at the Melbourne Money Expo, 27 – 28 August at the Melbourne Tennis Centre. Australia's most important currency treasures will be on public display, courtesy of Coinworks including the first banknote of the Commonwealth of Australia and the most valuable display of Holey Dollars ever offered. Yours free. A souvenir guide of the Exhibition.

*Welcome*



**FEATURED ITEMS:**



**1855 Sydney Mint Half Sovereign**

At Coinworks, we pride ourselves on offering the very best of the best Australian rare coins. So it's a strong statement when we say that this Extremely Fine 1855 Sydney Mint Half Sovereign is the finest we have handled.

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**1897 Proof Half Sovereign Melbourne Mint**

This coin is a prized collector piece. We have traced its provenance back to the year it was struck when it became the property of wealthy businessman John G Murdoch. Three were believed minted and this coin is, to our knowledge, the only example out of the original mintage to be sighted on the open market.

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**1813 Holey Dollar struck on an 1808 Ferdinand VII Silver Dollar**

The history associated with this Holey Dollar is momentous and is a reminder of the social and political messages conveyed by currency. It was struck in 1813 from a Spanish Silver Dollar that was minted at the Mexico Mint in 1808 and features the portrait and legend of the exiled King Ferdinand VII.

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**1948 Proof Penny Perth Mint**

It is our national symbol, the great Australian flying kangaroo. And it's never looked as good as it does on this stunning limited edition 1948 Proof Penny. This is a brilliantly preserved proof, displaying a superb level of design detail. The coin is a work of art, as individual, and as beautiful, as an opal.

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**1926 Specimen Sovereign Sydney Mint**

The 1926 Specimen Sovereign was struck on the 11 August 1926, the very last day of operation of the Sydney Mint in a ceremony attended by numismatic luminaries. The coin is one of three believed held by private collectors. Brilliantly preserved, the coin is as struck and of the highest rarity.

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# 1855 Sydney Mint Half Sovereign

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<b>Quality</b>	Extremely Fine
<b>Provenance</b>	Private Collection Sydney
<b>Price</b>	\$90,000

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You can count on the fingers of one hand the number of 1855 Sydney Mint Half Sovereigns that Coinworks has sold in Very Fine or better. Moreover this particular 1855 Half Sovereign is the finest we have handled.

So what does this say about the 1855 Sydney Mint Half Sovereign? And what does it say about the coin being offered here?

The 1855 Sydney Mint Half Sovereign is the nation's very first half sovereign. Less than 50 examples are known today and let's be clear on this point. That's not fifty at each quality level. That's fifty across all quality levels. (To put this figure into perspective, the industry estimates that 1500 to 2000 1930 Pennies, across all quality levels, are known.)

The scarcity of the '1855' is simply tied to its mintage. The year 1855 was the first year of operation of the Sydney Mint and a minuscule number of half sovereigns were struck, 21,000. By comparison, the following year (1856) the mint struck 478,000 half sovereigns.

That the majority of examples are found well used today reflects the fact that the half sovereign was the 'work horse' of the colony, used in every day transactions.

As distinct from the sovereign that tended to be hoarded in banks.

The scarcity and the extensive use, of the 1855 Half Sovereign was evidenced at the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) Auction in 2005 when the bank liquidated its holding of gold coins that had been accumulated between 1929 and 1976.

Over a 47 year time frame, the RBA had only accumulated seven 1855 Sydney Mint Half Sovereigns, all of which were well circulated, many of them damaged. Only one out of the seven showed any design detail graded at about Fine, with the remaining coins even further down the scale, virtually denuded of any significant design.

This coin is a superb example of Australia's very first half sovereign with beautiful old gold tone, strong edges that have an almost 'picture frame' effect on the coin and minimal marks in the field. This coin is ranked in the top five known examples.

**For the collector seeking to fill the hole in his/her Australian half sovereign collection. Or the investor seeking to acquire a great Australian rarity, this is an unparalleled opportunity.**

*On the 9th August 1853 Queen Victoria approved an Order in Council prepared by the British Government to establish Australia's very first mint at or near Sydney, in New South Wales. The mint was located in the southern wing of the city's Rum Hospital constructed during Lachlan Macquarie's term as Governor of the penal colony. As the coins produced at the Sydney Mint would be legal tender only in the colonies, a uniquely Australian design was allowed.*



# Sovereign



# 1948 Perth Mint Proof Penny

It is our national symbol, the great Australian flying kangaroo. And it's never looked as good as it does on this stunning limited edition 1948 Perth Mint Proof Penny.

That proof coins were struck during our pre-decimal era may surprise some readers. But it has to be said that proof coins are not just a product of the decimal years. The Perth Mint was striking gold proofs of our pre-decimal coinage in the nineteenth century and well into the twentieth century when the mint expanded its repertoire by striking copper proofs as well as gold proofs.

The intention was then, as it is today, to create limited mintage issues struck to the highest quality standards. But with two very glaring differences.

- The mintages more than a century ago were minuscule.
- Their target market was not the collector. Some of the pieces were kept by the Perth Mint in archives as a formal record of the striking. The balance was gifted to prominent overseas institutions fulfilling the ideology of proofs being struck as display pieces.

<b>Quality</b>	Superb FDC
<b>Provenance</b>	Private Collection Sydney 1998, Private Collection Melbourne
<b>Price</b>	\$35,000

For today's buyers, the opportunities for purchase of copper proofs is limited by the minuscule numbers struck. During the 1940s, less than twenty pennies were struck each year at the Perth Mint. (Compare this to the tens of thousands of decimal proofs that are produced today from our issuing authorities.)

And, if you are a quality focused buyer, the pool of available examples is even further reduced.

For just because a coin has the word proof attached to it doesn't mean it's worth buying. The value of a proof coin is as much to do with its state of preservation – how well it's been cared for in the intervening years - as it is with the clarity and precision of the original striking. Is it spotty? Edge bumps? Harsh and unattractive toning? Scratched? Gouges? Traces of original brilliance?

This means that there are poor quality proofs, mediocre proofs, great proofs – and those you simply can't take your eyes off because they are truly spectacular, such as this 1948 Proof Penny.



## 1930 Penny

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It is a fact that every 1930 Penny that we acquire ... is sold relatively soon after it is featured.

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We have formed the view that our clients respect our selection protocols. And that they are also aware that we sell coins with the direct aim of buying them back.

Consider this 1930 Penny. The owner has been a Coinworks client since the 1990s and we were eager to have his collection back into our hands and to sell on his behalf.

The obverse of his 1930 Penny is graded good Fine and shows six pearls and a partial central diamond. The lower scroll is strong, the upper scroll slightly weaker. The inner beading is crisp.

The coin is evenly toned and has minimal marks in the field and is extremely attractive to look at even though it has circulated.

The 1930 Penny is a part of Australian folklore. The coin is a national icon and its star status has made it one of Australia's most valuable coins. What's most interesting is that the 1930 Penny stumbled into fame.



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<b>Quality</b>	good Fine / About Very Fine
<b>Provenance</b>	Private Collection Melbourne
<b>Price</b>	\$29,500

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Officially the 1930 Penny was never struck and a review of minting records at the Melbourne Mint confirms that no pennies were struck for circulation in that year. The mint does however have a record of the six Proof 1930 Pennies that were struck as museum pieces.

The suspected mintage of the 1930 Penny is 1500 to 2000.

The 1930 Penny is still to this day the glamour coin of the numismatics industry and is unrivalled for popularity, enjoying a constant stream of demand unmatched by any other numismatic rarity.

There is no doubt it is an industry phenomenon, for in a market that is quality focused it is interesting to note that the 1930 Penny is keenly sought irrespective of its grading. And growth over the mid to long term has been significant across all levels of quality.

# 1926 Sovereign Sydney Mint

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<b>Quality</b>	Specimen
<b>Provenance</b>	Barrie Winsor, Madrid Collection
<b>Price</b>	\$95,000

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The State Library of New South Wales, confirms through its archival documents the extreme rarity of this 1926 Specimen Sovereign. The Library also confirms the coin's importance and ceremonious origins.

The 1926 Specimen Sovereign was struck on the 11 August 1926, the very last day of operation of the Sydney Mint in a ceremony attended by numismatic luminaries such as Mr A M Le Souef and Sir William Dixon.

The coin is one of three believed held by private collectors. Brilliantly preserved, the coin is as struck and of the highest rarity.

The Sydney Mint began receiving gold on May 14, 1855, and issued its first sovereigns soon after on June 23. After seventy one years of operation, the mint was forced to close. Its operations had been unprofitable for some time the irony being that a mint could go broke making coins.

An invoice made out to Sir Willian Dixon for the minting of coins on August 11, 1926 confirms that indeed fifty 1926 sovereigns were struck on the last day, destined for selected private collections and museums.

Included in the Library's archives is a statement (signed by Sir William Dixon's son, Robert) documenting the minting ceremony noting that "the last eight of the fifty sovereigns were struck individually". Using modern day terminology, the last eight were struck to specimen quality.

Dixon's note further confirms that the last two out of the eight were sent to London. We now know that they have been melted down.

The third and fourth last sovereigns were presented to Sir William Dixon and bequeathed to the State Library of New South Wales. We also know that the Museum of Victoria received one perhaps two specimens, leaving two maybe three Specimen 1926 Sovereigns available to private collectors.

That coins say as much about the collectors who owned them as they are a point in time is clearly affirmed by this 1926 Specimen Sovereign. This coin is history. And its former owners are legendary.





# Sovereign

# 1813 Holey Dollar struck on an 1803 Charles III Silver Dollar

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**Quality** Good Very Fine / Extremely Fine

**Provenance** Private Collector Melbourne

**Price** \$165,000

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With the launch of Coinworks Holey Dollar Pictorial History, this coin now takes its rightful place in Australia's currency heritage as Holey Dollar reference number 1803/17.

This Holey Dollar was struck from a Spanish Silver Dollar that was minted in 1803 and depicts the portrait and legend of Charles III. The original Spanish silver dollar is uniformly toned a glorious, soft gun-metal blue grey. The surfaces are smooth. Look closely and you see that the coin has original lustre in the legend.

With a quality level of good Very Fine, it is a high calibre Holey Dollar and an exception to those most commonly found. The extensive use of the Spanish Silver Dollar as an international trading coin meant that most of the coins imported by Macquarie were well worn.

What we also know about this Holey Dollar is that after it was created by William Henshall it underwent minimal circulation for the counter-stamps New South Wales, 1813 and Five Shillings are of an exceptional nature: the lettering highlighted by original golden lustre and beautiful toning. The technical grading of the counter-stamps is Extremely Fine.

Consider that after delivering this Holey Dollar to the Deputy Commissary General's Office in January 1814 along with the 39,909 other Holey Dollars, it was barely used.

And that after the Holey Dollars and Dumps were officially demonitised in 1829 this coin survived the recall, and the eventual melting pot. It is simply miraculous. It is a powerful piece.

The Holey Dollar is one of Australia's most desirable coins. Talk to those fortunate enough to own one and they will tell you that the coin is the jewel in their collection. And that statement is made irrespective of the quality level.

A Holey Dollar can resemble a washer if it is well circulated. Or it can reach the heady quality heights of the record breaking Madrid Holey Dollar. Or it can be at a quality level somewhere in between. No matter the quality, the pleasure of ownership is immeasurable.

Once you move from the well circulated Fine and Good Fine quality levels up to the Very Fine and Good Very Fine echelons, and then further up again to the Extremely Fine levels the differences in quality at each level are noticeable and are clearly visible to the naked eye. It is the detail in the hair, the robes and the overall state of the fields. And it's the edges.

The price of this coin reflects its outstanding quality attributes.



1813

# 1813 Holey Dollar struck on an 1808 Ferdinand VII Silver Dollar

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**Quality** Good Extremely Fine / Uncirculated

**Provenance** A. H. Baldwin, Philip Spalding

**Price** \$450,000

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The history associated with this Holey Dollar is momentous. It was struck in 1813 from a Spanish Silver Dollar that was minted at the Mexico Mint in 1808 and features the portrait and legend of the exiled Spanish King Ferdinand VII.

Whilst today people take to the streets to demonstrate their political views, the Mexico Mint made its own (not so quiet) political protest by refusing to acknowledge Joseph Bonaparte as King of Spain and retaining the exiled King Ferdinand VII's legend and portrait on the Spanish coinage. This coin is a reminder of the social and political messages conveyed by currency.

This particular Ferdinand Holey Dollar is unique for the date and to our knowledge is the finest Ferdinand VII Holey Dollar available to private collectors. It is beyond doubt the finest Ferdinand VII Holey Dollar that we have handled.

## **1808 AND UNIQUE**

The history associated with this Holey Dollar is momentous.

The coin is unique and is the only example of a Holey Dollar to bear the date 1808 and the portrait and legend of Ferdinand VII.

Spain was in turmoil in 1808. On 19 March 1808 Charles III of Spain abdicated the throne for his son, Ferdinand VII.

He reigned for only two months and on 6 May 1808, was tricked into exile by Napoleon Bonaparte, who proclaimed his brother Joseph Bonaparte as King of Spain.

On 12 August 1808, the Mexico Mint received the new dies bearing the legend and portrait of Ferdinand VII.

Refusing to acknowledge Bonaparte as King of Spain they commenced production of silver dollars featuring Ferdinand's portrait and legend.

Because the mint received the dies in the latter part of 1808, very few silver dollars were struck depicting Ferdinand VII.

*Haley*





## 1813 Holey Dollar struck on an 1808 Ferdinand VII Silver Dollar ... continued

### **THE RAREST OF THE RARE**

There are approximately two hundred Holey Dollars held in private hands, each of which can be characterised into 'types' based on the monarch and the mint of the original silver dollar.

This Holey Dollar depicts the portrait and legend of Ferdinand VII. And the mintmark of the Mexico Mint. These three traits (the portrait of Ferdinand VII, the legend of Ferdinand VII and the mint) combine to make it one of the rarest of all types.

- The portrait and legend of Ferdinand VII appears on only 7 per cent of known Holey Dollars, the very reason why we say that while all Holey Dollars are rare, Ferdinand VII Holey Dollars are the rarest of the rare.
- By comparison the portrait and legend of Charles III (Ferdinand VII's grandfather) appears on 14 per cent of known Holey Dollars.
- And the portrait and legend of Charles III, (Ferdinand's father) appears on 74 per cent of known Holey Dollars making it the most readily available type.

### **GLORIOUS QUALITY WITH LUSTRE**

The original Spanish silver dollar from which this Holey Dollar was created is uniformly toned a beautiful gun metal blue grey. The surfaces are reflective and glossy. Look closely and you see that the coin has original golden lustre in the legend and the date 1808.

The original coin is graded Good Extremely Fine, making it one of the finest of the 300 known Holey Dollars, comparable quality-wise to the Madrid Holey Dollar which sold last year for a world record price of \$550,000.

To our knowledge this is the finest Ferdinand VII Holey Dollar available to private collectors. It is beyond doubt the finest Ferdinand VII Holey Dollar that we have handled.

### **UNCIRCULATED COUNTER STAMPS**

The counter stamps of this Holey Dollar are highlighted by original golden lustre and beautiful toning. They are Uncirculated, as struck, and fully detailed as to the impression of the inner denticles, lettering Five Shillings and New South Wales, date 1813, fleur de lis, double twig of leaves and tiny H. The pristine state of the counter stamps is remarkable.

That after delivering this coin to the Deputy Commissary General's Office in January 1814 along with 39,909 other Holey Dollars, it was never used. And that after the Holey Dollar was officially demonitised in 1829 it survived the recall, and the eventual melting pot, is simply miraculous.

### **IMPECCABLE PROVENANCE**

This coin has an impeccable provenance. In terms of Holey Dollars the name Spalding is in my view the ultimate. This Holey Dollar was owned by A.H. Baldwin then sold in 1968 to Phillip Spalding.

### **THE 1813 HOLEY DOLLAR**

The 1813 Holey Dollar is one of Australia's most desirable coins. Talk to those fortunate owners, either private collectors or institutions such as Macquarie Bank, National Museum of Australia and the Mitchell Library, and you quickly realise that the Holey Dollar is viewed as the jewel in their collection.

About 300 Holey Dollars exist today, with a third of those held in public institutions. Private collectors own about 200 examples.



## 1937 Proof Crown

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Astute buyers understand the value of history. History is on-going and with the passing of time the historical value of fine pieces of Australiana can only increase.

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Astute buyers also understand the value of quality. And everyone respects the impact of rarity. This Proof 1937 Crown offers all three: history, quality and rarity.

So let's talk about each of these traits.

When Edward VIII decided to abdicate the British throne in 1936, currency issues throughout the world were thrown into disarray. To distract from the chaos, the Australian Government issued its first five-shilling piece, the 1937 Crown, depicting the portrait of the new king George VI (Edward's brother).

The notion of a Crown was pushed by the Treasurer of the day, R G Casey and is still to this day referred to as 'Casey's Cartwheel'.

No other coins were issued in 1937, bar the crown. So the 1937 Proof Crown was the only proof issue struck and feels the full force of collector attention. Highly historical? Absolutely.

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<b>Quality</b>	Superb FDC
<b>Provenance</b>	Private Collection Melbourne
<b>Price</b>	\$35,000

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Now let's talk about quality. This coin is impressive, a sizeable 38.5mm in diameter. The fields are substantial and as a proof coin, they are superbly mirrored contrasting the highly detailed crown designed by G K Gray. We know that the striking was well controlled, the mint aiming for perfection, because the coin shows the classic striations associated with the striking of the 1937 Proof Crown.

As always in the selection of rare coins we set our standards high to deliver uncompromised quality to our clients. And this coin is a superb FDC.

The rarity of the Proof 1937 Crown is the icing on the cake for the mintage is a meagre 100 pieces.

# 1897 Proof Half Sovereign Melbourne Mint

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<b>Quality</b>	FDC
<b>Provenance</b>	Murdoch, A. H. Whetmore, A. H. Baldwin
<b>Price</b>	\$85,000

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This 1897 Proof Half Sovereign is a prized collector piece. We have traced its provenance back to the year it was struck when it became the property of wealthy London businessman John G Murdoch.

History records that Murdoch, an avid collector, financed the striking of the proof half sovereigns in 1897 at the Melbourne Mint. Three were believed struck, each coin featuring the Veiled Head portrait of Queen Victoria.

This coin is to our knowledge, the only example out of the original mintage to be sighted on the open market.

A remarkable history and a truly remarkable quality piece this 1897 Proof Half Sovereign is flawless, showcasing the heady quality levels sought in proof coining. It is one of the finest proof gold pieces that we have handled. A brilliant proof, both in its design detail and the state of the fields.

Given the rarity and stunning nature of the coin – and the respect for Australian coins on the world stage - it comes as no surprise that we also see the names of foremost British collectors A. H. Whetmore and A. H. Baldwin included as former owners.

As with all top Australian coin and banknote rarities, they eventually 'come home'. As so it was with this coin when A H Baldwin offered the coin for sale through Spink Auctions Australia in 1978, the coin selling for \$6000 on an estimate of \$3000.

And on each subsequent auction re-appearance its rarity and its supreme quality have been noted with strong results realised as a consequence.

That proof coins were struck in the nineteenth century may surprise some readers. But it has to be said that the striking of proof coins in Australia is not a modern day phenomenon. Nor a product of the decimal era.

The nation's mints were striking proofs of our pre-decimal coinage in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and the intention was then, as it is today, to create limited mintage collector coins struck to the highest quality standards. But with two very glaring differences. The mintages more than a century ago were minuscule. And their striking was sporadic.

For today's buyers, the opportunities for purchase of proof gold is obviously limited by the minuscule numbers struck. And the irregularity of the issues. But there is another consideration. Great coins tend to be held.

The availability of a gold pre-decimal proof coin – of any year - is an opportunity. If you happen to be offered one of exceptional rarity, such as this coin, then the opportunity is even more profound.



*Prize*



## 1852 Adelaide Pound First or Cracked Die

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<b>Quality</b>	about Extremely Fine
<b>Provenance</b>	Private Collection Sydney
<b>Price</b>	\$115,000

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First die? Cracked Die? Second die? It all sounds a little bit pedantic but it is a fact that two different dies were used in the production of the Adelaide Pound.

The pride and joy of owning the Cracked Die Adelaide Pound, is indefinable and for many Australians it is the ultimate dream. The coin was minted at the Government Assay Office in Adelaide and is the nation's very first gold coin affording it a unique position in history. Furthermore the Cracked Die Adelaide Pound is rare with less than forty examples available to private collectors, across all levels of quality.

First die? Cracked Die? Second die? It all sounds a little bit pedantic but it is a fact that two different dies were used in the production of the Adelaide Pound. The first featured a beaded inner circle and produced approximately 40 coins before a die crack was noticed. (That's why the terms First Die and Cracked Die are synonymous.)

A second die, featuring a crenellated inner circle, was then taken up and was used to strike a further 24,600-plus coins.

Not only is there a distinct design difference between the coins struck from the first and second die, what is obvious from the figures is that those Adelaide Pounds struck using the first die are incredibly rare. Our experience affirms its rarity. In a career that spans forty-plus years we have handled less than ten examples.

Having accepted the rarity of the coin we now move on to discuss the quality levels that are available to buyers.

It is a fact that the majority of Adelaide Pounds from the first run are found today well worn. And that is not surprising. Because the die cracked, it was viewed as being faulty, so very few examples out of the first run were kept as souvenirs.

Rare in any quality, this Cracked Die Adelaide Pound is especially scarce in the superior quality level offered here.



Pound

# 1894 Proof Sovereign Melbourne Mint

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<b>Quality</b>	FDC
<b>Provenance</b>	John G Murdoch, Glendinings, Private Collection Melbourne
<b>Price</b>	\$85,000

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This 1894 Proof Sovereign is today, what it always has been, a storage of wealth. Its first owner was wealthy London businessman John G Murdoch.

From a business that began manufacturing musical boxes, J G Murdoch's company became a leader in the music industry, manufacturing pianos and organs. His successes provided him with the financial means of securing coins of the highest rarity and quality.

History records that Murdoch, an avid collector, financed the striking of the proof sovereigns in 1894 at the Melbourne Mint. Three were believed struck, each coin featuring the Veiled Head portrait of Queen Victoria. This coin is to our knowledge, the only example out of the original mintage to be sighted on the open market.

Murdoch liquidated his collection in 1903 at a London Auction conducted by Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge London: this 1894 Proof Sovereign listed as lot 636. His collection was marketed as one of the most important, valuable and extensive ever formed in England, his gold patterns and proofs in particular were described as brilliant and unrivalled at the time.

The second auction appearance of the 1894 Proof Sovereign occurred in 1974 at Glendinings London.

The coin has never been offered at an Australian public auction.

That proof coins were struck in the nineteenth century may surprise some readers. But it has to be said that the striking of proof coins is not a modern day phenomenon. Nor a product of the decimal era.

Australia's mints were striking proofs of our pre-decimal coinage in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and the intention was then, as it is today, to create limited mintage collector coins struck to the highest quality standards. But with two very glaring differences. The mintages more than a century ago were minuscule. And their striking was sporadic.

For today's buyers, the opportunities for purchase of proof gold is obviously limited by the minuscule numbers struck. And the irregularity of the issues. But there is another consideration. Great coins tend to be held.

The availability of a gold pre-decimal proof coin – of any year - is an opportunity. If you happen to be offered one of exceptional rarity, such as this coin, then the opportunity is even more profound.





## 1927 Proof Canberra Florin

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The Australian Government authorised the release of this limited edition collector coin in 1927 to commemorate the opening of Parliament House in Canberra.

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His Royal Highness the Duke of York, officially opened Parliament House in Australia's national capital, Canberra on 9 May 1927. In front of a massive crowd, the Duke of York opened the parliamentary doors with a golden key and unveiled a statue of his father King George V in the foyer.

To commemorate this momentous occasion, the Government authorised the release of a limited edition collector coin. It was the Melbourne Mint's very first collector coin issue, the coins selling for a sixpence premium over face value. And it was Australia's very first commemorative coin.

We know the coin today as the 1927 Proof Canberra Florin. And it is a prized collector piece.

The release of the 1927 Proof Canberra Florin was a well-publicised event that saw the coins sell to members of the public outside traditional numismatic circles. Coins being mishandled or pieces simply lost into circulation was the fate of many of the proofs out



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<b>Quality</b>	FDC
<b>Provenance</b>	Private Collection Melbourne
<b>Price</b>	\$29,500

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of the original mintage of 400. So a small mintage of coins becomes even smaller for the buyer seeking a quality Proof Canberra Florin.

In today's market we might see one premium quality Proof Canberra Florin on the market every year. And we stress the inclusion of the word 'premium' in this statement.

This particular 1927 Proof Canberra Florin is a premium quality example and is classified as FDC, with brilliant mirror fields. The coin shows the characteristic striations associated with Proof Canberra Florins which reflects meticulous die preparation. Moreover, it has been sharply struck and brilliantly preserved. Visually it is stunning.

As an historic piece and as a finite asset, the rarity of the 1927 Proof Canberra Florin is assured. As an exquisite example of the Melbourne Mint's craftsmanship, the coin is a numismatic gem.



## 1872 Sovereign Melbourne Mint

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The Melbourne Mint was the second branch of the Royal Mint London to be opened in Australia and commenced operations striking gold sovereigns in 1872.

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This 1872 Sovereign is pivotal to Australia's gold coin history for it represents the very first year of sovereign production at the Melbourne Mint and depicts the Young Head design of Queen Victoria with the St George reverse.

Not only the first year of production at the mint in Melbourne, but this coin has the lowest recorded mintage of the entire Young Head series, from both the Sydney and Melbourne Mint. (History records that the dies dated 1872 did not reach the Melbourne Mint until April of that year.)



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<b>Quality</b>	Choice Uncirculated
<b>Provenance</b>	Barrie Winsor Collection
<b>Price</b>	\$24,500

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The supreme quality of this 1872 Sovereign makes it even more appealing. Presented in Choice Uncirculated, the coin is immaculately struck and highly detailed.

Furthermore, it has been brilliantly preserved for the coin has smooth surfaces and strong edges.

Historical records reveal that the Melbourne Mint was experiencing problems with its sovereign production in its first year of operation which makes the quality of this particular sovereign all the more remarkable.

This is a superb opportunity for lovers of quality gold rarities.

## OUR SERVICES

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### STORAGE AND INSURANCE

Coins and banknotes purchased from Coinworks can be stored at our Westpac Safety Deposit facilities. Items held in Safety Deposit are fully insured and both storage and insurance are provided free of charge.

Your coins and banknotes are available for inspection with 24 hours prior notice.

### LAYBY SERVICE

We offer a layby system of staggered payments over three months on all rarities. The layby period can be extended beyond the three month time frame (up to nine months) by special arrangement.

### VALUATIONS

Coinworks provides free annual valuations on all items purchased from Coinworks.

### SECURE DELIVERY

Coinworks uses TNT Failsafe, a door-to-door personalised delivery. For items valued in excess of \$200,000, Coinworks uses Brinks Australia. All deliveries are covered by our Transit Insurance and the service is offered to buyers free of charge.

### PAYMENT OPTIONS

Coinworks now accepts payment by credit card, Visa or MasterCard only. The good news is that no credit card surcharge will apply.

### SMSF COMPLIANCE

Coinworks is fully compliant with Australian Government Legislation regarding valuations, storage and insurance for Self Managed Superannuation Funds.